

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (original): A locator device for indicating the relative location and behavior of a dog in a sporting field, said locator device comprising:

- a housing carried by a dog;
- a vibration switch disposed within said housing, said vibration switch comprising an enclosure whose sidewall is electrically conductive, said vibration switch comprising a mass member that is electrically conductive and disposed within said enclosure, said vibration switch comprising a first electrical contact disposed within said enclosure and a second electrical contact disposed within said enclosure, said first electrical contact and said second electrical contact electrically insulated from said sidewall; and
- a communication device responsive to said vibration switch.

Claim 2 (original): The locator device of Claim 1 further comprising a processing device in electrical communication with said vibration switch and said communication device, said processing device activating said communication device in response to said vibration switch.

Claim 3 (original): The locator device of Claim 2 wherein said processing device performs the task of debouncing.

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (previously presented): The locator device of Claim 24 wherein said first electrical contact and said second electrical contact are disposed substantially on the longitudinal axis of said vibration switch.

Claim 6 (original): The locator device of Claim 1 wherein said sidewall of said enclosure of said vibration switch is electrically grounded.

Claim 7 (original): The locator device of Claim 1 wherein said vibration switch does not include a fluid-tight seal.

Claim 8 (original): The locator device of Claim 1 wherein said vibration switch includes a fluid-tight seal.

Claim 9 (original): The locator device of Claim 1 wherein said communication device is a sound generating device.

Claim 10 (original): The locator device of Claim 1 wherein said communication device comprises a transmitter/receiver combination, whereby said receiver is accessible by a handler.

Claim 11 (original): The locator device of Claim 1 wherein said housing includes a collar bracket that receives a dog's collar such that said locator device is carried by the dog.

Claims 12-13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (previously presented): A locator device for indicating the relative location and behavior of a dog in a sporting field, said locator device comprising:

a housing carried by a dog;

a vibration switch disposed within said housing, said vibration switch comprising a first electrical contact and a second electrical contact and an enclosure, said first electrical contact disposed at a first end of said enclosure, said second electrical contact disposed on an opposing second end of said enclosure, said first electrical contract and said second electrical contact are further substantially disposed on the longitudinal axis of said vibration switch, whereby the longitudinal axis of said vibration switch is substantially parallel to the backbone of the equipped dog; and

a communication device that is responsive to said vibration switch.

Claim 15 (original): The locator device of Claim 14 further comprising a processing device in electrical communication with said vibration switch and said communication device, said processing device activating said communication device in response to said vibration switch.

Claim 16 (original): The locator device of Claim 15 wherein said processing device performs the task of debouncing.

Claim 17 (original): The locator device of Claim 14 wherein said sidewall of said enclosure of said vibration switch is electrically grounded.

Claim 18 (original): The locator device of Claim 14 wherein said vibration switch does not include a fluid-tight seal.

Claim 19 (original): The locator device of Claim 14 wherein said vibration switch includes a fluid-tight seal.

Claim 20 (original): The locator device of Claim 14 wherein said communication device is a sound generating device.

Claim 21 (original): The locator device of Claim 14 wherein said communication device comprises a transmitter/receiver combination, whereby said receiver is accessible by a handler.

Claim 22 (original): The locator device of Claim 14 wherein said housing includes a collar bracket that receives a dog's collar such that said locator device is carried by the dog.

Claim 23 (previously presented): A locator device for indicating the relative location and behavior of a dog in a sporting field, said locator device comprising:
a housing carried by a dog;
a vibration switch disposed within said housing, said vibration switch comprising:

an enclosure having a sidewall, a first end, and a second end, said sidewall being electrically conductive,

a mass member contained within said enclosure, said mass member free to move within said enclosure, said mass member being electrically conductive,

a first electrical contact disposed proximate to a first end of said enclosure, said first electrical contact electrically isolated from said sidewall, said first electrical contact and said sidewall being placed in electrical communication when said mass member engages said first electrical contact, and

a second electrical contact disposed proximate to a second end of said enclosure, said second electrical contact electrically isolated from said sidewall, said second electrical contact and said sidewall being placed in electrical communication when said mass member engages said second electrical contact, and

a communication device responsive to said vibration switch.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A locator device for indicating the relative location and behavior of a dog in a sporting field, said locator device comprising:

a housing carried by a dog;

a vibration switch disposed within said housing, said vibration switch is oriented such that the longitudinal axis of said vibration switch is substantially parallel to the backbone of an equipped dog, said vibration switch comprising an enclosure whose sidewall is electrically conductive, said vibration switch comprising a mass member that is electrically conductive and disposed within said enclosure, said vibration switch comprising a first electrical contact disposed within said enclosure and a second electrical contact disposed within said enclosure, said first electrical contact and said second electrical contact electrically insulated from said sidewall; and

a communication device responsive to said vibration switch.